

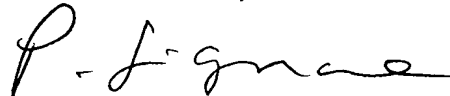
REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The above preliminary amendment amends the Abstract of the Disclosure to correct minor informalities, cancels Claims 1-16 and adds new Claims 17-35 to comply better with U.S. claim drafting practice. Claims 17-35 find non-limiting support in the disclosure as originally filed, for example from original Claims 1-16, and thus are not believed to raise a question of new matter.¹

Accordingly, an examination on the merits of Claims 17-35 is believed to be in order, and an early and favorable action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Steven P. Weihrouch
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 32,829

Customer Number

22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413 -2220
(OSMMN 06/04)

Philippe J.C. Signore
Registration No. 43,922

¹ See MPEP 2163.06 stating that "information contained in any one of the specification, claims or drawings of the application as filed may be added to any other part of the application without introducing new matter."